

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of operating a trusted computing system comprising a plurality of computing devices on a network, the method comprising:

an assessor computing device receiving via the network a report from, and pertaining to the trustworthiness of, a first computing device [[,]]; and

the assessor computing device updating via the network the trust policy of a second computing device in accordance with the report.

2. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the assessor computing device updates via the network the trust policies of multiple computing devices in accordance with the report.

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the assessor computing device updates via the network policies by assessing the trustworthiness of the first computing device on the basis of information about the first computing device in the report.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the assessor computing device updates via the network policies on the basis of an assessment of the trustworthiness of the first computing device contained in the report.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the assessor computing device requests via the network the first computing device to make the report.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first computing device is caused to report by being started-up or reset, or by an undesirable event occurring.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first computing device is caused to report periodically.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 in which the second computing device authenticates the trust policy update issued by the assessor computing device before accepting it.

9. (currently amended) A method of operating a trusted computing system comprising a plurality of computing devices on

a network, in which a first computing device has a trusted component which issues a report pertaining to the trustworthiness of the first computing device wherein a trust policy controller receives said report via the network from the trusted component and updates via the network the trust policy of a second computing device in accordance with said report.

10. (currently amended) A method of operating a trusted computing system comprising multiple computing devices on a network wherein a trust policy controller determines the trust policy for each of said computing devices in accordance with the trustworthiness of other of said multiple computing devices as determined from reports received by the controller via the network pertaining to the trustworthiness of each computing device.

11. (currently amended) An assessor computing device for controlling a trusted computing system comprising multiple computing devices on a network, the assessor comprising a receiver for receiving via the network a report from, and pertaining to the trustworthiness of, a first computing device, an updater for updating the trust policy of a second computing device in accordance with the report, and a transmitter for transmitting the updated policy to the second computing device via the network.

12. (currently amended) An assessor computing device according to claim 11, wherein the updater is arranged to update the trust policies of multiple computing devices in accordance with the report and the transmitter is arranged to transmit the updated policies to the multiple computing devices via the network.

13. (currently amended) An assessor computing device according to claim 11, wherein the updater updates policies by assessing the trustworthiness of the first computing device on the basis of information about the first computing device in the report.

14. (currently amended) An assessor computing device according to claim 11, wherein the updater updates policies on the basis of an assessment of the trustworthiness of the first computing device contained in the report.

15. (currently amended) An assessor computing device according to claim 11 further comprising a requestor, for requesting the report from the first computing device.

16. (currently amended) A system, comprising:

an assessor computing device for controlling a trusted computing system comprising multiple computing devices on a network, the assessor comprising

a receiver for receiving via the network a report

from, and pertaining to the trustworthiness of, a first computing device,

an updater for updating the trust policy of a second computing device in accordance with the report, and

a transmitter for transmitting the updated policy to the second computing device, and

the system further comprising first and second computing devices, wherein at least the first computing device comprises a reporter for sending via the network a trustworthiness report to the assessor computing device and at least the second computing device comprises a memory maintaining a trust policy such that the trust policy is modifiable by the transmitter.

17. (original) A system as claimed in claim 16 in which the reporter comprises a trusted component associated with the first computing device.

18. (currently amended) A system, comprising:

multiple computing devices on a network, and

a trust policy controller which serves to determine the trust policy of said computing devices;

each of said computing devices having associated with it a trust policy memory to store a trust policy for that computing device, and a trusted component which issues a report pertaining to the trustworthiness of that computing device; wherein

the controller receives via the network reports from the trust components and updates via the network the trust policy in the trust policy memory of each computing device in accordance with the trustworthiness of other of said multiple computing devices as determined from said reports.